Washington County-By-County Report Shows the Harm of Not Extending Unemployment Insurance

24,400 in Washington State set to lose coverage

If Congress fails to extend the federal Emergency Unemployment Compensation program more than 24,400 people in Washington State will lose their insurance coverage immediately on Dec. 28. An additional 37,600 people in Washington State will lose their coverage in the first six months of 2014 if Republicans continue to block an extension of the program.

Federal unemployment insurance took effect in 2008 and has been reauthorized several times since as Americans continue to recover from the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression. Despite the real progress the economy has made since its near collapse in 2008, there are still 1.3 million fewer jobs than there were before the recession began, long-term unemployment as a percentage of the unemployed is 37 percent, near historic highs.

Failure to extend federal unemployment insurance would also hurt job growth throughout the nation, costing the economy 240,000 jobs, according to the White House Council of Economic Advisers. The CEA estimates that in Washington alone, failing to extend the program will cost 6,183 jobs.

COUNTY	# OF PEOPLE LOSING COVERAGE DEC. 28
Adams	43
Asotin	25
Benton	853
Chelan	234
Clallam	231
Clark	1078
Columbia	6
Cowlitz	367
Douglas	106
Ferry	26
Franklin	347
Garfield	3
Grant	323
Grays Harbor	396
Island	212
Jefferson	90
King	6943
Kitsap	744
Kittitas	116

Klickitat	51
Lewis	334
Lincoln	24
Mason	234
Okanogan	156
Pacific	77
Pend Oreille	36
Pierce	3472
San Juan	28
Skagit	445
Skamania	37
Snohomish	2749
Spokane	1569
Stevens	136
Thurston	930
Wahkiakum	7
Walla Walla	131
Whatcom	660
Whitman	41
Yakima	1154
Total	24,414